Attorney Docket No. 0213(C/HG:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Katsuhiro IWASAKI et al

Serial No.

10/085/197

Filed

Concomitantly horewith

For

METHOD AND APPARATUS

FOR METAL SMELTING

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FILED CONCOMITANT WITH APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, below title and above "TECHNICAL FIELD", please insert the following:

--This application is a continuation patent application of International Application PCT/JP00/05916 filed August 31, 2000.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following amended claim 37 is identical to the claim in the application starting on page 240, fifth line from the bottom and continuing through page 241 and ending on page 242, line 2 which was erroneously identified as claim "36" instead the correct number "37".



JAH //va

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Lon Vale

Lori Valdes

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.